

NEW COMBINATIONS IN *APPENDICULA* BLUME AND *OCTARRHENA*  
THWAITES (ORCHIDACEAE) IN AUSTRALIA

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ABSTRACT

Embryological and morphological studies indicate that two species, *Podochilus australiensis* and *Phreatia baileyana*, have been misplaced in their respective genera. The new combinations *Appendicula australiensis* (Bailey) M. Clements et D. Jones, and *Octarrhena pusilla* (Bailey) M. Clements et D. Jones are provided to reflect the relationships of these species.

KEY WORDS: *Appendicula*, *Octarrhena*, *Podochilus*, *Phreatia*, Australia, Orchidaceae

INTRODUCTION

This is the first of a series of papers required to adjust the nomenclature of Australian orchids following detailed studies by the authors. Preliminary examination of the developmental embryology of species in the subtribes *Podochilinae* and *Thelasiinae* has revealed errors in the generic placement of some of the Australian taxa. Associated examination of fresh flowers of *Podochilus australiensis* (Bailey) Schltr. shows the pollinarium to consist of six pollinia. This is a characteristic of the genus *Appendicula* Blume, not of *Podochilus* Blume which has four pollinia. Parallel studies on material of *Phreatia baileyana* Schltr. shows that plants are sympodial with indeterminate growths and the flowers lack a mentum, both of which are characters of the genus *Octarrhena* Thwaites not of *Phreatia* Lindley. In light of these studies new combinations are made:

**Appendicula australiensis** (Bailey) M. Clements et D. Jones, *comb. nov.*  
BASIONYM: *Eria australiensis* Bailey, *Occas. Pap. Queensl. Fl.* 1:8. 1886.; *Podochilus australiensis* (Bailey) Schltr., *Repert. Spec. Nov. Regni Veg. Beih.* 3:316. 1907., *syn. nov.* TYPE: AUSTRALIA. Queensland: Johnstone River, *T.L. Bancroft s.n.* (HOLOTYPE: BRI!). *Illus. pl.* 428 (Nicholls 1969).

**Octarrhena pusilla** (Bailey) M. Clements et D. Jones, *comb. nov.* BASIONYM: *Oberonia pusilla* Bailey, *Votes & Proc. Legis. Ass. Qld.* 4:1227. 1889. and *Rep. Bellenden Ker Exped.* 23. 1889. *Phreatia pusilla* (Bailey) Rolfe, *Orchid Rev.* 11:344 (1903), *non* (Blume) Lindley 1830. *Phreatia baileyana* Schltr., *Repert. Spec. Nov. Regni Veg. Beih.* 9:433. 1911., *syn. nov.* TYPE: AUSTRALIA. Queensland: Bellenden Ker at about 4000 ft, *F.M. Bailey s.n.* (HOLOTYPE: K!). *Illus. p.* 651 (Dockrill 1969).

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